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ORDER REGARDING SEVERE WEATHER AND FLOODING DISASTER

BY

THE TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE

County Judge Order 2025-3; Related to Declaration of Disaster regarding Heavy Rainfall and Flash Flooding and Waterway Ban on Lake Travis

Recitals

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2025, Governor Greg Abbott issued a disaster proclamation declaring a state of disaster in Bandera, Coke, Comal, Concho, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Kimble, Llano, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Reeves, San Saba, and Tom Green counties, and on July 5, 2025 extended the disaster proclamation to include Bexar, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Travis and Williamson counties based on the heavy rainfall and flash flooding posing an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life, and further authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster; and

WHEREAS, Travis County Judge Andy Brown issued a Declaration of Disaster on July 5, 2025 pursuant to his authority under Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 (or otherwise referred to as "July 2025 Severe Weather and Flooding Disaster"); and,

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2025, the Travis County Commissioners Court voted to continue the Declaration of Disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Travis County Judge has determined from information provided by emergency management personnel that the above conditions set forth in his Declaration of Disaster continue to exist and pose a threat of severe damage, injury or loss of life or property, and persons within Travis County have been and continue to be severely impacted by the severe weather and flooding; and

WHEREAS, continued support and ongoing recovery efforts are needed to preserve public health, welfare and the safety of the Travis County community in response to the July 2025 Severe Weather and Flooding Disaster; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 418.108(f) and 418.185 of the Government Code, the County Judge is authorized to order the evacuation of all of part of an area stricken or threatened by a disaster within the County if necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery and may compel persons who remain in the evacuated area to leave and authorize the use of reasonable force to remove persons from the area; and

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WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code section 418.108(g), a County Judge is authorized to control ingress and egress from a local disaster area, and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that disaster area; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Colorado River Authority has encouraged the public to avoid lakes Buchanan, Inks, LBJ, Marble Falls and Travis due to the presence of bacteria and debris from recent flooding; and

WHEREAS, after consulting with the Lower Colorado River Authority on the present hazards within Lake Travis, and with their input, notification, and without objection, the County Judge finds that circumstances present in Lake Travis, create a public safety hazard and therefore issues the following order amending and replacing Order 2025-02 issued July 13, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS THAT:

1. The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order are found to be true and correct and hereby adopted by the County Judge and made a part hereof for all purposes.

2. This Order shall continue all provisions of the Declaration of Disaster issued by the County Judge on July 5, 2025 and ordered to be continued by the Travis County Commissioners Court on July 8, 2025.

3. Individuals in Travis County are advised not to travel on roads with substantial damage due to the flooding, that could threaten public safety unless necessary because of unsafe road and travel conditions caused by the July 2025 Severe Weather and Flooding Disaster.

4. Due to the continued public health and safety hazards present in the waterway of Cow Creek caused from the severe flooding, the Travis County Judge deems it in the public interest to BAN and PROHIBIT all recreational use of Lake Travis within 100 feet of the mouth of Cow Creek and all of Cow Creek. This ban does not apply to commercial operators, individuals designated as emergency response by a state or local official or agency, or representatives of a state or local agency that accesses Lake Travis.

5. Pursuant to Section 418.173, Texas Government Code, a violation of this order is a misdemeanor and may be punishable by a fine up to $1,000.00 or confinement for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

6. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this Order by the County Judge shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

7. That this Order shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

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DECLARED AND ORDERED this 19th day of July, 2025.

DocuSigned by:
Andy Brown
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Andy Brown, County Judge
County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County:

Signed by:
Dyana Limon-Mercado
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Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk

Date: 7/19/2025

FILED AND RECORDED
OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS
Dyana Limon-Mercado
Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
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